

MEMPHIS CHAMBER COMMERCE TO ASK HOSPITAL FUNDS

It is up to the people of Memphis just what sort of Marine hospital they are to have in this city, according to Maj. James Brew, officer in charge of the local Marine hospital. The board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce urge congress to set aside a larger appropriation for the erection of a new hospital here, instead of the small appropriation contemplated for improvements on the old hospital.

Maj. Brew said that if the officials of the city and the civic organizations were satisfied with a small appropriation, that would be about what they would get. On the other hand, he said that if officials of Memphis and the various organizations would get earnestly behind the project and work conscientiously for a big appropriation for a new hospital, they would, in all probability, land a considerable slice of the \$500,000 appropriation the surgeon-general had asked for hospital purposes.

Tentative plans for the new hospital contemplate a capacity of 500 beds. Maj. Brew, by means of maps and charts, showed the directors the great importance of Memphis as the center of a large territory to be served as a hospital for soldiers and sailors and the other members of the land and naval forces of the federal government. The territory includes, according to Maj. Brew, Tennessee, Kentucky, a large part of Alabama and Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, North Texas, Southeast Missouri and Oklahoma.

The question of the site which the city will offer for the hospital was left open, after discussion had developed some difference of opinion regarding the use of DeSoto park. Dr. B. F. Turner, a former member of the park commission, objected to the use of DeSoto park, saying that it was historic ground and should be retained for the pleasure of the people of Memphis. Maj. Brew, on the other hand, pointed out the advantage to accrue from the fact that DeSoto park adjoins the present hospital site, and, in the event a new hospital should be erected on the park, the present buildings could be used for quarters. However, the question of a site is not expected to constitute an obstacle to the proposed hospital.

Congressman Hubert Fisher will be asked to place the matter before the proper congressional committee. Meanwhile, R. R. Ellis, president of the Chamber of Commerce, announced that that body would do all in its power to arouse the working interest of all the civic bodies of Memphis in the movement.

FIRE LOSS \$200,000.
WASHINGTON, N. C., Dec. 20.—Damage estimated at \$200,000 resulted from fire which destroyed half of the fertilizer plant of the Pamlico Chemical company here. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

Activities Among Memphis Negroes

BY REV. T. O. FULLER.

Prof. Z. T. Mitchell, of Springfield, Ill., who comes to Memphis as fiscal agent of the proposed university, is highly recommended by the officials and educators of the city and state from which he comes. He has a large experience in educational and race adjustment matters, and having lived in the South he is thoroughly acquainted with conditions here, and is destined to accomplish much good in his new field.

A copy of the "Upward Path" is on our desk, compiled by Myron T. Pritchard and Mary W. Ovington. It is a book by negro authors for use in negro schools.

A number of our churches will hold service at 5 o'clock Christmas morning, and some churches will have special music.

The interracial committee has made Attorney E. F. Booth's office its temporary headquarters, where matters referred to them will be considered. T. O. Fuller is serving as chairman and S. W. Browne is secretary. Ring phone Main 1307.

The police officers need the moral support of all good citizens in the apprehension of those who persist in violating the law. Can you be relied upon to co-operate?

Dr. A. M. Townsend, pastor of the Metropolitan Baptist church, filled his pulpit Sunday.

The Child Welfare club is preparing to make gifts to poor children on Christmas. Many churches are assisting the club in its work.

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Police Baffled By Mystery Of Baby Found In Gutter

Police are endeavoring to shed light on mystery surrounding the finding of a fully developed baby boy, whose body, wrapped in a newspaper, was found in a gutter near Vance avenue and Dudley street at 7 o'clock Sunday morning.

An early passerby seeing a bundle, neatly wrapped and tied, and thinking it a package of laundry, investigated. In fright he called police, and the body of the child, which had been dead but a short time, was taken to the city morgue by Police Emergencymen Emberton and Vaughn. The man did not remain to give his name.

Physicians said the baby was fully developed. It was unusually large and well formed. There were no marks of violence, and it has not been determined whether the child was dead when born. The point is disputed.

Hallelujah! Street Cars To Be Heated

An agreement regarding the heating of street cars was reached Friday at a recent conference attended by Horace Johnson, commissioner of public utilities, grounds and buildings; E. W. Ford, superintendent of the street railway company, and Ross W. Harris, expert, who made the recent survey of traffic conditions in Memphis.

It was agreed that on clear, dry days, when the temperature on the outside dropped to 38 degrees or lower, the heat would be turned on in the cars. On cloudy, or damp days, the heat is to be turned on when the outside temperature drops to 43 degrees or lower. The government thermometer on the federal building will be authority on outside temperatures.

It was stated at the conference that the temperature inside the car is usually about 10 degrees, on an average, higher than on the outside. On this basis it was thought the temperatures agreed upon for the turning on of heat would insure comfort in the cars.

Mr. Harris, who has recently been ill at his home at Madison, Wis., is here collecting data for putting into effect his plan for operating the cars after the first of the year. He secured much of this data at Friday's conference. He proposes to regulate the operation of cars so that the public will receive the maximum of service at the same time the company receives the maximum net revenue from the fares taken in.

Arrest Man On Murder Charge

Morris McKinley, alias Charley Sun, wanted at Belzoni on a charge of murder, was arrested here Sunday night and is being held by Memphis police pending the arrival of a Mississippi officer. McKinley is alleged to have murdered a negro woman in the Mississippi town. A reward of \$100 was offered for his arrest.

Cop's Condition Still Unchanged

James H. McNeill, police motorcycle patrolman, who sustained a fractured skull in a collision with an automobile last Tuesday night, remains the same, reports from St. Joseph's hospital said Monday. McNeill is conscious at times, and recognizes his friends.

ABOLISH LUXURY TAX.

OTTAWA, Dec. 20.—All taxes on luxuries in Canada, excepting alcoholic liquors, confectionery and playing cards, have been abolished by the dominion government through an order in council, it was announced yesterday.

KOREANS KILL JAPS.

(By International News Service.)
PEKING, Dec. 20.—Korean insurgents at Chien Tao attacked detachments of Japanese troops, killing 18 and wounding 35, said a dispatch from Harbin today.

Deputy Santa Claus Tells Joys and Sorrows of Job

BY W. R. P.

"Well, it's all right when you see some of your favorite bill collectors with a small purse trying to please their kids and not recognizing you into the bargain," said one of the local Santa Clauses recently when asked how he liked his job.

"You see, for the first hour or so it's lots of fun to suddenly burst into jolly laughter, in imitation of the alleged eccentricities of St. Nick, and thereby make all of the kiddies giggle with delight. But after the third hour it gets monotonous, and in the afternoon, that laugh is sure hard to force, and what does come on, but think of me! Gee, but it gets hot. And if you never had to have a big set of stiff whiskers glued to your face you don't know what the word 'uncomfortable' means." He sighed.

"The hotter I get, the stickier and runnier that glue gets, and the more the darn thing tickles. And you ought to see my feet after I've been standing on them all day, picking up the smaller kids and listening to their tales of woe. I've often thought that if I could put what the kids say on paper I'd be a rich man. They have most remarkable imaginations. And there is another drawback to the job. I am a smoker. An inveterate smoker. But did you ever see a picture of Santa Claus with a cigar in his mouth? Besides, employees of the store are not allowed to smoke while on duty. That is perhaps the greatest drawback. And in spite of these inconveniences, I must hold my padded sides and howl with mirth. It's not fair.

Tell Fantastic Tales.
"But there is one compensation. The joy of the kiddies. They tell me the most fantastic tales about themselves, describing their virtues and asking for everything from airplanes to a million dollars and a gandy dance. They whisper into my ear stories of misbehavior that even their mothers do not know, prom-

ising to never do it again if I will only not forget that cowboy suit. The store Santa Claus grew pensive again. "It is sad," he said, "to see some of the younger children who have been enlightened as to the real meaning of Christmas. They look at me with sad eyes, not realizing, of course, that their fondest illusion has been torn from them, but knowing that for some strange reason they feel sad that their Santa Claus is not a Santa Claus, but only a man dressed that way."

"My kid came into the store with his mother the other day, and I was scared stiff. I was afraid he'd recognize me and queer the whole thing. But I had forgotten all about my makeup. He didn't know me, and I was careful not to speak until he was gone. He came up and told me all about what he wanted, and it sure was a lot. How does he expect me to get all of that? But his mother recognized me at once. She winked at me. I guess the kid'll get what he wants."

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SHOULD GUARD AGAINST FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—The department is responsible for the protection of the live stock industry against the introduction of nearly a score of serious foreign live stock diseases," declares the secretary of agriculture, in his annual report, just made public. "One of the

most infectious and dangerous of these," he adds, "is foot-and-mouth disease, which exists nowhere in the United States at the present time, but is a constant menace because of the facility with which it may be carried by animals, hides and various live stock products."

"The importance of prompt action in eliminating any centers of infection whenever they develop emphasizes the necessity of providing an

adequate 'insurance' fund, available for immediate use. Such a fund, to be used only in case of actual outbreaks, has been carried in the agricultural appropriation act for several years. The appropriation was reduced by \$950,000 at the last session of congress, leaving an amount which is entirely inadequate to cope with serious outbreaks."

"While, through good fortune, no outbreak has thus far occurred during the current fiscal year, it would certainly be the part of wisdom to make liberal provision for dealing with this dangerous disease whenever it appears, and the department, therefore, has recommended in its estimates for the next fiscal year, 1921, that the appropriation be restored to its former figure."

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